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M. V. A. FINAL VISUAL PRESENTATION

by

Carl Skelton

A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH
IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF VISUAL ARTS

IN

PRINTMAKING
DEPARTMENT OF ART AND DESIGN

EDMONTON, ALBERTA

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The undersigned certify that they have read and
recommend to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research,
for acceptance, a thesis entitled

M.V.A. FINAL VISUAL PRESENTATION

submitted by Carl Skelton

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
MASTER OF VISUAL ARTS.

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I hereby release the following works for incorporation into the University Collections, University of Alberta, as part of the Master of Visual Arts Thesis Collection:

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>MEDIUM</u>	<u>SIZE</u>
Bridge Over River	1985	Mixed Media	30" x 160"
Burlesque	1985	Litho/Screen	38" x 28"
(University Departmental Collection)			
Unwisdom	1984	Lithograph	28" x 38"
Of Tropical Ditches	1985	Mixed Media	38" x 76"

SLIDES OF VISUAL PRESENTATION

#	TITLE	MEDIUM	SIZE	DATE
1	Hoodoo Honk	Mixed	56x40"	1985
2	Devil Babel	Mixed	96x36"	1985
3	Paper Tiger Stutter	Mixed	48x72"	1985
4	Fountain of You	Mixed	5x5x7'	1985
5	Fountain of You (detail)			
6	Of Tropical Ditches	Mixed	38x76"	1985
7	Bridge over River	Mixed	30x160"	1985
8	The Winking Wall	Mixed	60x80x16"	1985
9	Home Sweet Home	Mixed	45x30"	1985
10	Critical Blues	Lithograph	56x38"	1984
11	The Lucy Variations	Mixed	38x28"	1984
12	Burlesque	Mixed	38x28"	1984
13	Unwisdom	Lithograph	28x38"	1984

TALKING AND REPEATING PICTURES

REPETITION IS A FACT OF LIFE, A FUNDAMENTAL

TRUE IS RHYTHM

IS EROTIC

IS RITUAL

SLEEP AND WAKING

BREATH

I REPEAT MYSELF UNTO DEATH,

AS A FOIL TO EVENTS AND CHANGING ARE LIVING.
YOUR BREATHING, THE BREATH OF OTHERS MAKE
A SIMPLE MUSIC THAT SAYS MORE TRUTH THAN
YOU CAN **READ**. THE PAUSES BETWEEN
SENTENCES ARE MORE ELOQUENT MORE TRUE
THAN THE SENTENCES.

THERE'S ORDER IN THIS. NOBODY KNOWS INTELLECTUALLY
THEIR **TRUTHS**, OR THESE WOULD LOSE IMPORTANCE.
JUST SO; THE MORE SENSE AN IDEA SEEMS TO MAKE, THE
LESSER ~~IS~~ ITS MYSTERY, WHICH IS A MAGICAL POWER.

A PICTURE CAN HINT AT THE VALUABLE PAUSES BETWEEN
AND USE THE POWER OF A NON-SEQUITUR BY ORCHESTRATING
VISUALLY A HIERARCHY OF **ELEMENTS**, EACH OF WHICH
BEARS A PROPORTION OF SENSE TO NON-SENSE.

THE BIG PICTURE! A COMPLETE SENTENCE
BY DEFINITION —————> BY ITS EDGES, DECLARING
THE RELATIONS IN IT TO BE AT LEAST MORE IMPORTANT
THAN THOSE LEFT OUT, FOR THE TIME BEING;
A BATTLEFIELD, **LIKE YOUR HEAD.**

AN ABECEDARY OF LIFE AND DEATH

A PROCESSION OF ~~NEW~~ OLD DEMONS

ICONS BUILT OUT OF WORDS WHICH ARE IN THEMSELVES **IMAGES**, EACH WITH ITS OWN VOODOO POWER — BY VIRTUE OF SUBLIMINAL CONNECTIONS TO OTHER WORDS AND OTHER KINDS OF IMAGE.

AT THE SAME TIME:

MAKING A WORD INTO A THING CORRESPONDS METAPHORICALLY TO ITS PROPERTIES AS IMAGE AND SO BRINGS THESE TO THE SURFACE.

THIS IS THE GOAL — TO MAKE OBVIOUS THE INTERCONNECTEDNESS OF VERBAL AND VISUAL, WHERE WORDS ARE PICTURES AND VICE VERSA.

THIS IS BASIC:  (MEN)  (WOMEN)

COLOUR AND TEXTURE ARE INTONATION AND PUNCTUATION — **THIS IS BASIC**; THE SIMULTANEOUS ACTION OF SIGHT AND TALK IS A COMMONPLACE, AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN: A RITUAL DANCE FOR FERTILITY, A RAMBO BLOOD REVENGE FANTASY.

THIS WORK ADDRESSES THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF MYTHOLOGY AND ~~SOME~~ THE WAYS THEY ARE CHARGED WITH EMOTIONS, DENOTATIONS, CONNOTATIONS, ASSOCIATIONS, THAT ADD UP TO **MEANING**.

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